



DEPARTMENTS OF THE ARMY AND THE AIR FORCE
NATIONAL GUARD BUREAU
1411 JEFFERSON DAVIS HIGHWAY
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NGB-CD

DEC 17 2004

MEMORANDUM FOR See Distribution

SUBJECT: National Guard Drug Testing Policy

1. The National Guard must continue its efforts to deter drug abuse and thereby increase mission readiness. Drug testing remains a critical part of the National Guard's fight against drugs. States that fail to meet the minimum testing rates continue to expose the National Guard to increased safety risks, criticism and budget reductions, and undermine our policy of a drug free force.

2. As part of the National Guard Substance Abuse Prevention Program, each state will meet the following annual drug testing requirements.

a. Each State will test its Army National Guard (ARNG) force at a minimum rate of 50% of assigned strength as reported for 31 October 2004. At least one-half (1/2) of this testing must be collected through random, unannounced testing. Commanders may supplement random testing with commander-directed, probable cause, consent, unit sweep, and medical tests.

b. Each State will test 100% of its ARNG personnel in the following categories: General Officers, Military Police, aviators, aviation maintenance personnel, Counterdrug personnel, and personnel who routinely carry a weapon while on duty.

c. Each State will test its Air National Guard (ANG) force at a minimum rate of 40% of assigned strength as reported for 31 October 2004. At least one half (1/2) of this testing must be collected through random, unannounced testing. Commanders may supplement random testing with commander-directed, probable cause, consent, unit sweep, and medical tests.

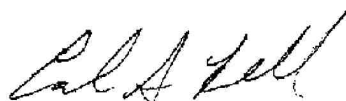
d. Each State will test 100% of its ANG personnel in the following categories: General Officers, Security Police, aviation personnel (personnel who are required to take an annual flight physical), Counterdrug personnel, and personnel who routinely carry a weapon while on duty.

3. The ARNG and ANG Active Guard and Reserve (AGR) will test at a rate equal to 100% of the AGR end-strength.

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4. Mandatory testing will count toward the state's ARNG and ANG annual quotas.
5. Personnel in mandatory testing groups, and AGR personnel, are not exempt from additional testing as part of the ongoing random testing conducted during the year.
6. The goal of the National Guard Bureau is for each state to test at least 60% of the ARNG and 50% of the ANG end-strengths each fiscal year.
7. In conjunction with the specimen collections, each state will perform a thorough quality control inspection of each specimen prior to shipping specimens to the laboratory for testing. States will maintain a laboratory fatal discrepancy (reject) rate of less than 1% for all specimens submitted to the laboratory for testing. The NGB Goal is for each State to maintain an annual reject rate of 0.0%
8. Specimens, to the maximum extent possible, should be prepared and submitted with automated bar-coded documents and bottle labels. The minimum rate for submission of bar-coded submissions is 85%. The NGB goal for bar-coded submissions is 95%.
9. The National Guard Substance Abuse Prevention Program has continued to improve in recent years. Each of us must continue to do our part in making the program a success, and in making the National Guard a mission ready, drug free force.
10. Point of contact is MAJ Jeff Washburn, Chief, Substance Abuse Program, at DSN 327-5766, or commercial at 703-607-5766.



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